



County of York
Office of Fire & EMS Assistance
Youth Fire Safety Program
149 Jordan Springs Road
Alfred, Maine 04002
(207) 459-2463



Youth Fire Safety Program

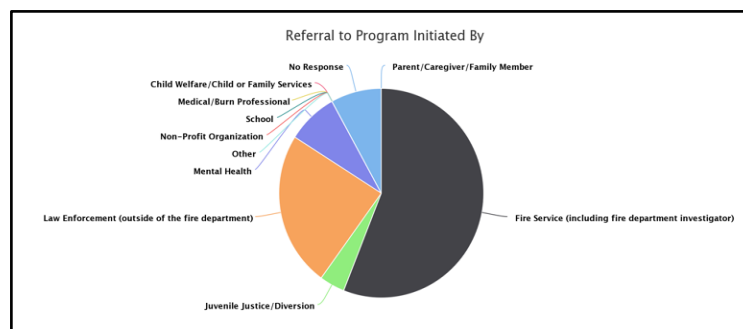
2021 Program Report

Program Overview

- 25 -Youths referred to the fire safety program
- 27 - Educational / interventional in-person sessions provided
- 15 - Zoom fire safety interventions
- 4 - parent educations
- 14 -In-person / zoom cancellations
- 10 - Clinical Consultation sessions attended
- 10 - Pine Tree Burn Foundation interactions
- 2 - Pine Tree Burn Foundation educational committee meetings
- 10 - Youth Fire Safety Collaborative interactions- Cumberland / Oxford
- 1- Grant Meeting
- 3 - Long creek Youth Development Center meetings / education
- 1 - Scarborough clinician meeting
- 3 - National fire safety intervention and education meetings
- 1- Fire Department open house
- 1- NH fire marshal educational collaboration meetings
- 2- SMCC Leadership presentations-evaluator

Referral Sources

- The fire service continues to be the primary source of referrals, though law enforcement appears to be a growing source of referrals.



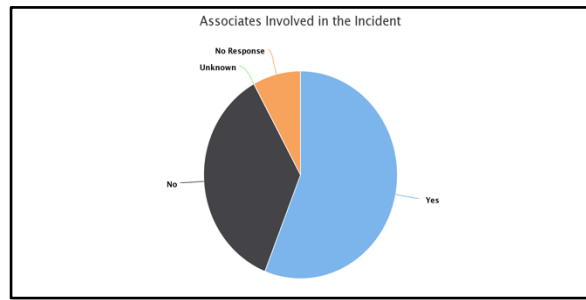
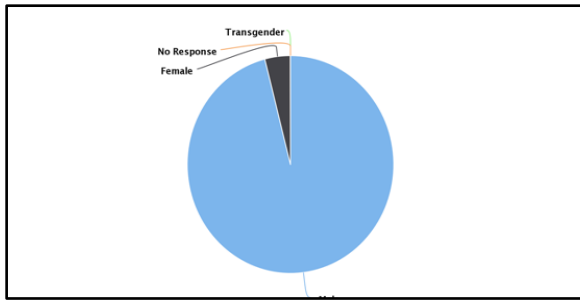


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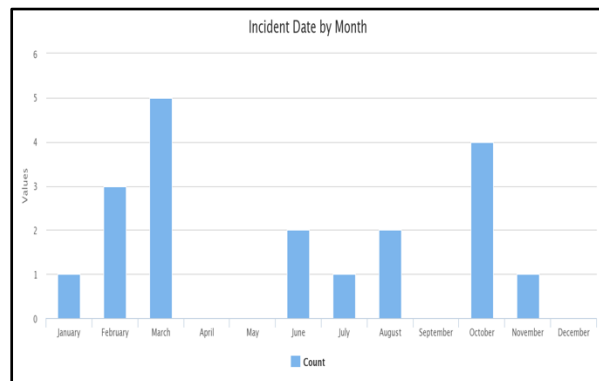
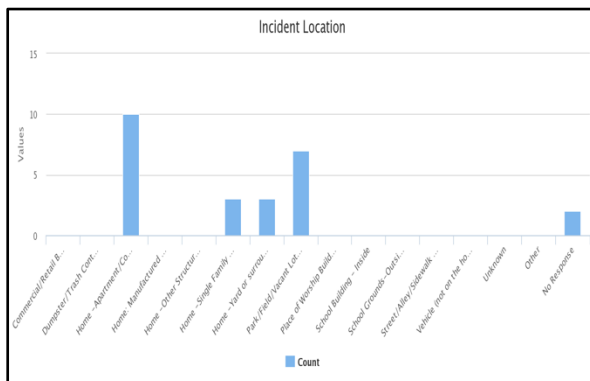
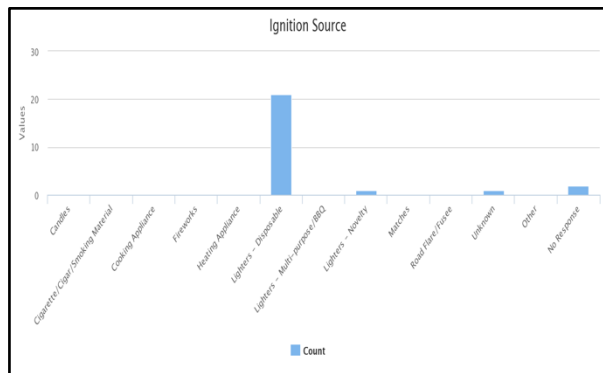
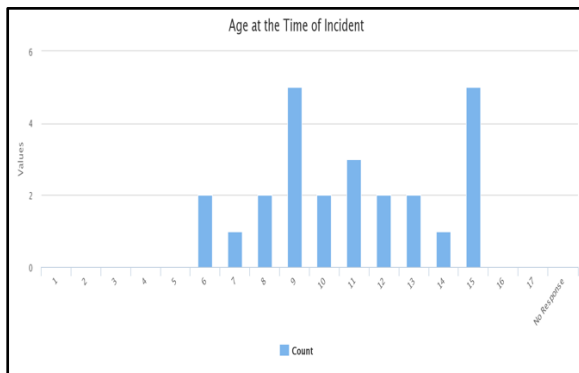


- Males made up 96% of referrals
- In 56 % of referrals another child was involved in the fire incident.



Referral Locations and Incidents

- Referred youth range from 6-15 years of age
- Disposable lighters remain the primary source of ignition
- The home (inside or outside) remains the primary location of fires
- March and October were noted to be the highest month for fire setting activity





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York County Referrals by Community

- Berwick- 2 Referrals
- Biddeford- 3 Referrals
- Eliot- 2 Referrals
- Limerick- 1 Referral
- Lyman- 1 Referral
- Kittery- 1 Referral
- Old Orchard Beach- 3 Referrals
- Saco- 3 Referrals
- Waterboro- 8 Referrals

Program Achievements

- A National Fire Academy Youth Firesetter Prevention and Intervention program was delivered in a hybrid model during the month of March. This hybrid model allowed for a diverse group of attendees to include four additional counties that have not been represented in the youth firesetter intervention circles.
- Program staff participated in ongoing programmatic support from Janice Teasenfitz, LCSW for continued program development and guidance for complex cases.
- Program staff have begun utilizing a hybrid model for youth firesetter intervention. While challenging, staff are navigating the use of technology to improve support and education to families.
- With challenges related to the ongoing pandemic and transportation issues, program staff have transitioned fire safety education to an online platform based on the child and family needs. This has been extremely beneficial as it has allowed program staff to access youth and families who normally would struggle with class attendance based on varying factors.
- The program staff developed a parent fire safety education program, following several cases that limited initial education to children based on behavioral health resources. The program proved extremely valuable and sought to address primary concerns related to firesetting those being access to matches/lighters and supervision.
- Program staff formed renewed relationships with fire service professionals from Kittery and Eliot Fire Departments. This is a new area of expansion for us in recent years noting challenges of time and distance related to providing education.



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Outreach & Collaborative Efforts

- Program staff participated in the initial collaborative meeting for Oxford County on March 17th, 2021. The Oxford County youth fire safety collaborative have been creating a framework to address youth firesetting within their communities. Program staff have supported this collaborative effort by providing guidance and documentation.
- Program staff met with the Pine Tree Burn Foundation to discuss the Fire and Life Safety Educator I program. Program staff will be collaborating with Pine Tree Burn Foundation in the coming months to support both a full course and abbreviated Fire and Life Safety Educator I model.
- Program staff met with Long Creek Youth Development Center to discuss collaboration on a fire safety program for the facility. Program staff along with Cumberland County staff conducted a fire safety jeopardy training, which was well received.
- Program staff have been working with a national group that is developing youth firesetter intervention curriculum. This partnership should yield benefits for the program as well as contributions to a national standard.
- Program staff met with Scarborough fire department and police department's behavioral health clinician to discuss youth fire safety. This relationship will prove to be beneficial in the coming years to support both York County and Cumberland County programs.
- Program staff were elected to serve as members of the Pinetree Burn Foundation. Molly Cunningham was elected to serve as assistant secretary, while Matthew Leach was selected to serve as vice-president. The program staff have worked closely with a Pinetree Burn Foundation, as this has connected staff to individuals around the state who are committed to fire and life safety education.
- Program staff have begun reestablishing the relationship with the American Red Cross smoke alarm program coordinator. The program was placed on hold based on the ongoing pandemic but has recently begun the process of reestablishing the program with community stakeholders.
- The program staff continue to work closely with Pinetree Burn Foundation in developing a support framework for youth fire safety programs statewide. This has primarily involved taking current program documentation and creating generic documentation that could be utilized by future collaboratives.



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Needs Assessment: Personnel/Staff, Training, Material, Financial

- Program staff are often in need of sites throughout York County to hold fire safety education sessions. There has been some discussion on improving online resources to increase the effectiveness of online delivery of youth fire safety programs.
- There is need to develop a succession plan as the organization continues to grow and evolve to meet the diverse needs of the community. This consideration focuses on adding individuals to the program that could be trained and mentored in alignment with proper succession planning.

Program Goals for 2022

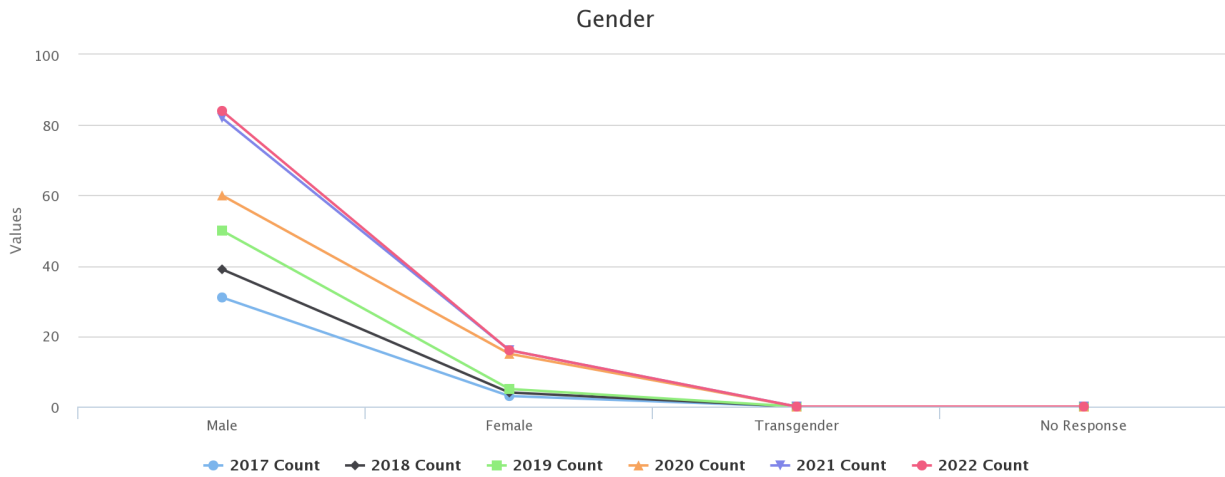
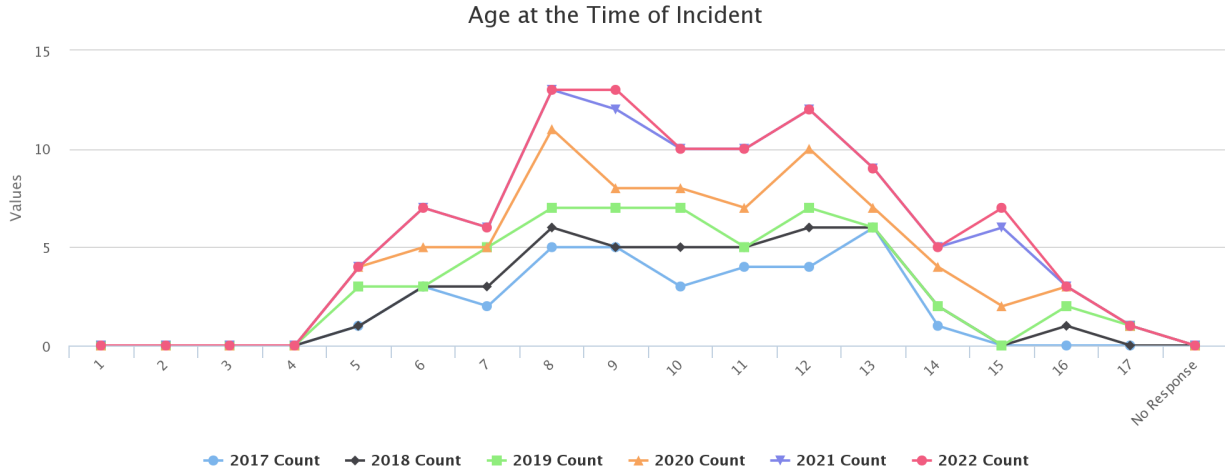
- The program staff plan to deliver a youth firesetter intervention and prevention program in Summer / Fall 2022.
- The program staff are working with Pinetree Burn Foundation to achieve instructor training in the NFPA “Remembering When Program”. This is an ongoing effort as staff are required to receive train-the-trainer prior to the presentation of a community program. Remembering When is centered around 16 key safety messages – eight fire prevention and eight fall prevention (NFPA, 2022). Program staff can decide how to best approach the local senior population: through group presentations, during home visits, and/or as part of a smoke alarm installation and fall intervention program.
- The program staff are partnering with Pinetree burn foundation to support both the fire and life safety educator I program and youth fire safety throughout the State of Maine. The program staff hope to continue to advance standardization of education in partnership with the Pinetree Burn Foundation. This is a new initiative for both organizations, which has created new relationships and partnerships with a common goal of advancing fire safety prevention and education.
- The program staff are currently working with the State of Maine Fire Marshal’s Office to coordinate a quarterly meeting of state youth fire safety collaboratives. The York County program has a well-established relationship with the State of Maine Fire Marshal’s Office and will partner to support other programs throughout the state through collaboration and ongoing training.
- In alignment with the goal of succession planning, consideration is focused on adding additional staffing to the program. This goal is twofold as it creates more opportunity to expand educational initiatives, while creating sustainability for future efforts.



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2017-2021 Data



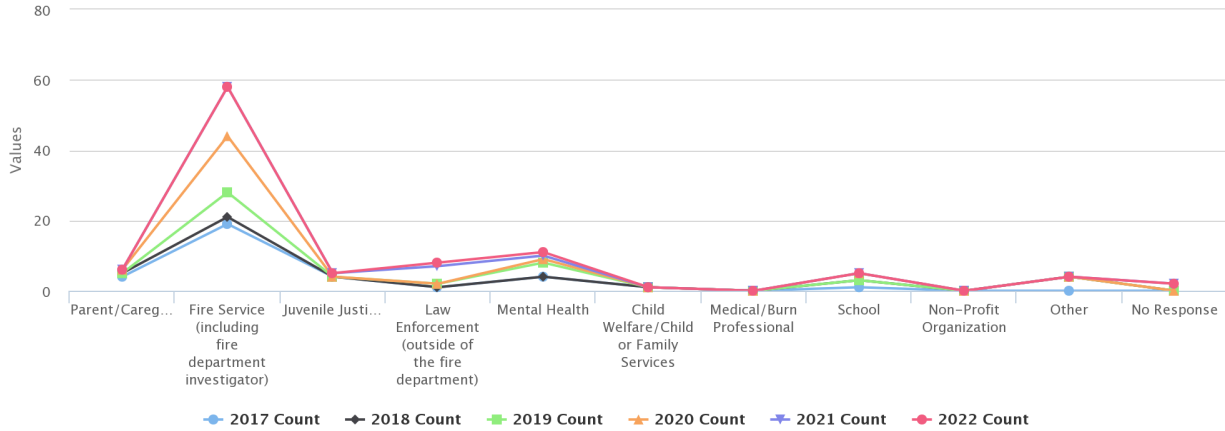


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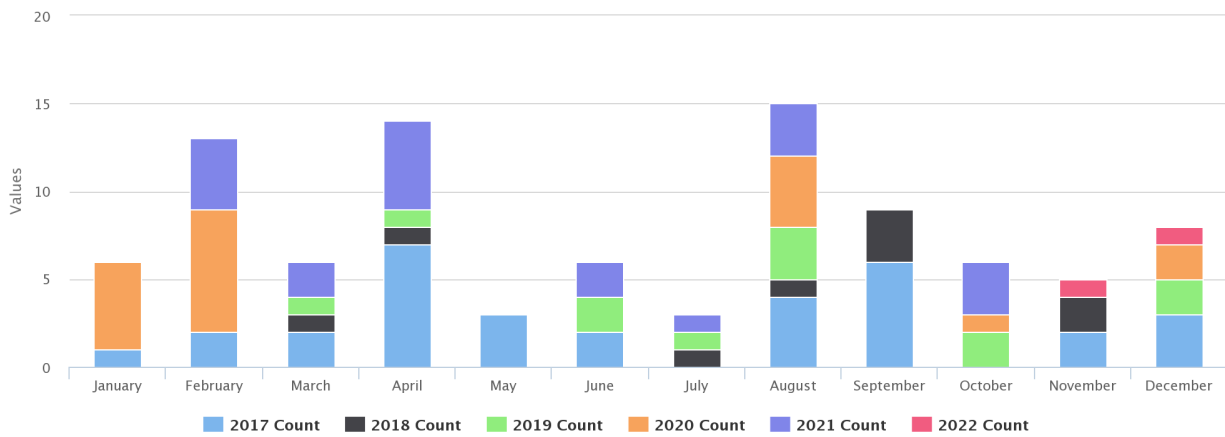
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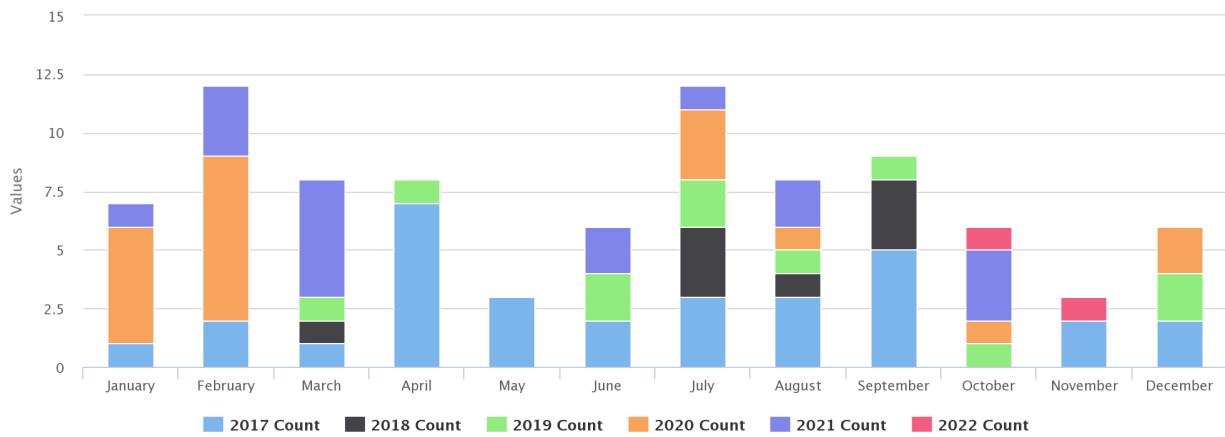
Referral to Program Initiated By



Referral Date by Month



Incident Date by Month



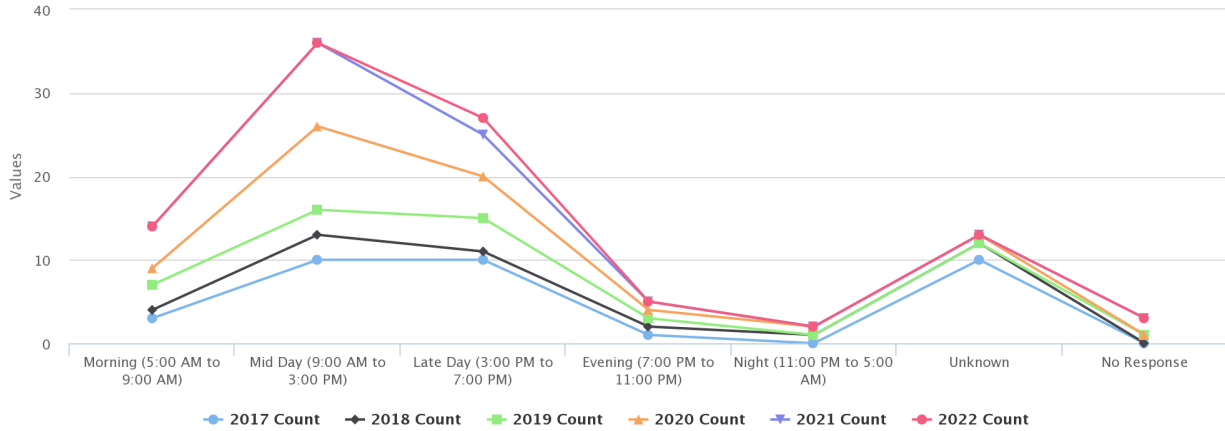


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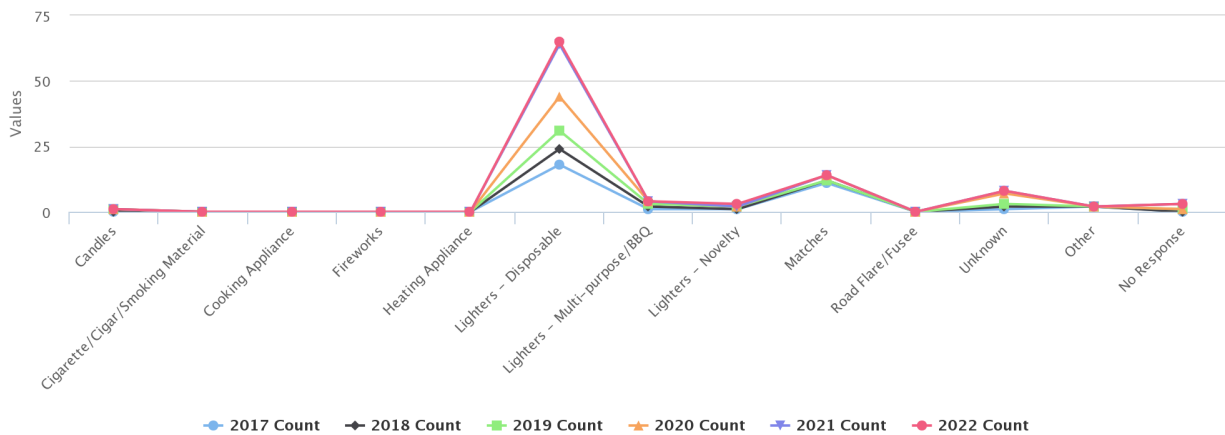
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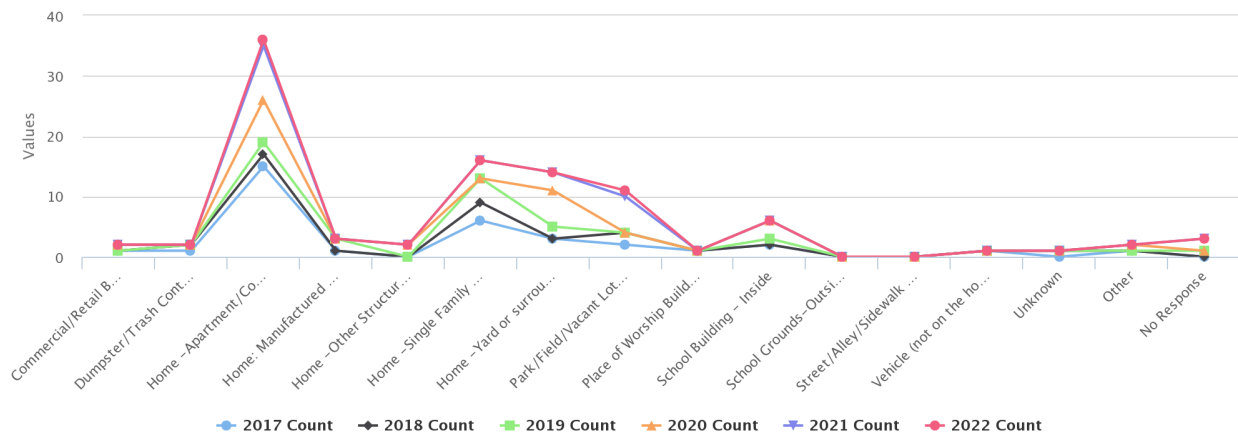
Incident Time of Day



Ignition Source



Incident Location





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Family Type of Youth

